

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **HB 527 - SB 1063**

March 7, 2001

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Specifies that "health care practitioners" under the Governmental Tort Liability Act do not include any person employed by a governmental entity as an emergency medical technician or any other emergency medical service provider.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

#### **Local Govt. Expenditures - Cost Avoidance - Exceeds \$100,000**

The October, 2000 state Supreme Court decision in *Mooney v. Sneed* affirmed the lower court's decision that EMT's and EMT-P's were health care practitioners and were not protected by immunity provisions of the Tennessee Governmental Tort Liability Act. This estimate assumes in the absence of the bill, local governments would have to purchase malpractice insurance for EMT's and EMT-P's that they employ. The cost of such insurance is estimated to be significant.

This estimate assumes physicians will continue to be classified as "health care providers" under the law and would not be considered emergency medical service providers under the provisions of the bill.

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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